



NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



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Sauk County becomes a National Weather Service StormReady® county

National Weather Service officials have recognized Sauk County as a StormReady® county. The [StormReady®](#) program helps community leaders and residents better prepare for hazardous weather and flooding. StormReady® communities have made a strong commitment to implement the infrastructure and systems needed to save lives and protect property when severe weather strikes.

Tim Halbach, Warning Coordination Meteorologist of the National Weather Service forecast office in Milwaukee, will present county officials with special StormReady® sign during a meeting at the Sauk County West Square Building at 505 Broadway St, Baraboo in Room 213 on Friday, February 2nd at 9 am.

“Sauk County is particularly susceptible to hazardous weather due to the amount of tourism it sees year round. The efforts by the county Emergency Management group, particularly Jeff Jelinek, have gone above and beyond to make sure that both local residents and tourists are prepared for when severe weather occurs,” said Tim Halbach, Warning Coordination Meteorologist.

“Sauk County has a vast area that offers many activities and places to relax. It is imperative that we have an enhanced weather plan to ensure the safety of our residents and guests within the County,” said Jeff Jelinek, Sauk County Emergency Management Director. “By being ‘Storm Ready’, it means we have taken the time to make sure we have done everything that we can do so that a comprehensive plan is in place and we are prepared when mother nature brings severe weather to our area.”

The nationwide community preparedness program, founded in 1999, is a grassroots approach to preparing for natural hazards. Today, more than 2,700 U.S. communities are better prepared for severe weather through the StormReady program.

To be recognized as StormReady®, a community must maintain a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center; have more than one way to receive National Weather Service warnings and to alert the public; be able to monitor local weather and flood conditions; conduct community preparedness programs; and ensure hazardous weather and flooding are addressed in formal emergency management plans, which include training [SKYWARN®](#) weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

The StormReady program is part of the National Weather Service's working partnership with the [International Association of Emergency Managers](#) and the [National Emergency Management Association](#). The StormReady recognition is valid for three years and can be renewed.

The NWS's Milwaukee Forecast Office, located in Sullivan, Wi., is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for about 3 million people in 20 Wisconsin counties. Join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Working with partners, the [National Weather Service](#) is building a [Weather-Ready Nation](#) to support community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather.

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StormReady® is a registered trademark used by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.